

CURRENT HAPPENINGS

FAITHFUL CHRONICLE OF ALL IMPORTANT ITEMS.

CASTAWAYS VILLAGE

SHIP'S COMPANY TWO MONTHS ON CORAL ISLAND.

Daughter Born to Wife of Chaplain Patrick, of the Navy, Just Before Stranded Company Was Picked Up by Steamer Manuka.

The castaways from the British steamer Aeon, who spent nearly two months on Christmas Island, an almost barren coral formation in the Pacific ocean, arrived at Suva, Fiji Islands, Wednesday on the steamer Manuka, of the Canadian-Australian line, all well and increased by one in number. A daughter was born to the wife of Chaplain B. B. Patrick, U. S. N., twenty-four hours before the Manuka was sighted on this event with the arrival of the rescuers made the occasion of much rejoicing.

The Manuka reached Christmas Island on Sept. 2. Six hundred bags of mail were transferred to the steamer during the night and the passengers and crew were taken on board the next morning.

The Aeon left San Francisco on July 6 for Auckland by way of Apia and was carried on the coral island by the strong currents setting in shore. The steamer speedily broke up, but the mails were saved and a large quantity of stores. The refugees suffered severe privations, but found themselves among the remnants of former wrecks, indicating the dangers of reefs and tides. Besides the officers and crew, the Aeon carried Mrs. Patrick and her children and the wife of Lieut. Riddle, U. S. N. Rude shelters were built, but later on quite an artistic cottage was erected for Mrs. Patrick and her nurse out of lumber of the ship. Among the stores saved were plenty of fresh vegetables and the men of the crew got fish in abundance by the use of clubs in the surf.

A supply of fresh water was found at a depth of seven feet.

The United States supply ship Solace, which has been in attendance on the torpedo boat destroyer fleet, arrived Thursday, having sailed from Pago Pago, Samoa, Wednesday. She will return there on Saturday with Mrs. Patrick and her family and Mrs. Riddle.

BOY STOLE FATAL DISEASES.

Ambition Leads a Lad to Take Germs of the Deadliest Kind.

Enough germs of diseases to kill New York if they were let loose to multiply were found by two venturers, but nervous detectives, who they broke in on and arrested a boy of 14 years who, in his ardent pursuit of bacteriological knowledge, had stolen and was gloating over dozens of glass slides.

These little transparent plates, viewed by a person who did not know where the boy scientist had purloined them, would have called forth only the remark:

"Kind of dirty; they need to have those little spots cleaned off."

Dirty specks! The man who said it would have turned gray with terror had he known that those pin-pointed blotches were bacilli of smallpox, typhoid fever, diphtheria and the still deadlier typhus.

Ambition to become a great scientist had so seized upon young Irving Benton, of Brooklyn, that he was determined to get material for his studies, no matter how he got it. His mother is a scrub woman. At police headquarters young Benton, weeping, admitted he had stolen a microscope, an x-ray machine and bacteria slides so that he might be able to equip himself for a scientific career.

Shoots 8-Year-Old Girl.

Christopher Crede, treasurer of Gilpin county, Colo., shot and mortally wounded Jennie Hebe, the 8-year-old daughter of Mrs. Adelle Hicks, at whose home he boarded, and then committed suicide. Following the shooting Mrs. Hicks became hysterical, but it was gleaned from her incoherent statements that Crede entered her room and the shooting followed the refusal of a demand made by him. The nature of the demand was not disclosed.

Great Strike Called Off.

The Canadian Pacific mechanics' strike, involving 20,000 men, was declared off Thursday. The terms of settlement were not announced.

Sioux City Live Stock Market.

Wednesday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Top hives, \$4.22 1/2. Top hogs, \$6.75.

Innes is Very Ill.

Frederick Innes, the well known band master and musical director, is dangerously ill in the Savoy hotel, at Seattle, Wash., suffering from fever. Mrs. Innes is with him.

Great Horror in India.

Latest reports from the flooded districts in India, which resulted from unprecedented rains, place the death list at 10,000. One village with 1,000 houses was entirely engulfed in mud.

MAY DEPOSIT POLYGAMIST.

Rich Hongkong Man Detained at San Francisco.

Robert Hu Ting Rosman, the Hongkong millionaire, who with two wives and three children arrived in San Francisco from the Orient on the steamer from Korea Tuesday, may be deported to the land whence they came.

The special board of inquiry appointed to investigate the case of Rosman determined to shift the responsibility of saying whether or not the party should be admitted to this country to the immigration department at Washington. As Rosman has come to this country seeking medical attendance he will be allowed to come ashore and be taken, pending advices from Washington, to the German hospital in that city, accompanied by one servant, but the two wives and three children will not be allowed ashore at all.

Rosman is in urgent need of skillful medical attention and will take advantage of the opportunity given him to undergo treatment while awaiting word from the action taken in Washington. He frankly admits his practice of polygamy, in which he says he sees no harm. He is the son of a Dutch father and Chinese mother and is a prominent citizen of Hongkong.

WORKLESS IN CONVENTION.

Delegates Arrive on Breakbeams "Blind Baggage," and on Foot.

An extraordinary gathering began in New York Monday, made up of delegates from various parts of the country to take part in a four days' conference. They came on the breakbeams of freight cars, on the "blind baggage," swift express or straggled in over dusty roads. They profess to represent the country's workless and to constitute the "first national convention of the unemployed." "The national committee of the unemployed" is the official name of the organization, at the head of which is J. Eads How, of St. Louis, known as the "millionaire hobo."

Many prominent men were invited to deliver addresses before the convention, among them being Roosevelt, Bryan, Taft and John E. Redmond, the Irish leader. All the men named have excused themselves on the ground of not representing the health of the unemployed. "The principal subject scheduled for discussion at Monday's meeting.

SLAUGHTER IN COAL MINES.

Over 3,100 Men Killed During the Past Year.

Accidents in the coal mines of the United States during the last calendar year resulted in the death of 5,125 men and the injury of 5,314 more, according to statistics just made public by the geological survey at Washington, D. C.

The death record was greater by 1,033 than in 1906, and is said to have been the worst year in the history of the coal mining industry.

The figures do not represent the full extent of the disasters, as reports were not received from certain states having no mine inspectors.

Gov. Hanly is Accused.

Luther W. Kelsely, a member of the lower house of the legislature, of Indiana, now in special session, signed an affidavit Monday in support of the charge made by him Saturday on the floor of the house, when he voted against the county option bill, that Gov. Hanly had offered him a position paying \$2,000 a year if he would vote for the bill.

Actor Joseph Wheelock Dead.

Joseph Wheelock, the veteran actor, died of heart disease at his home in New Jersey Tuesday as he was about to take a train for New York. Mr. Wheelock was about 65 years old. He was one of the founders of the Actors Home of America and served as its first president.

Doctor Kills Burglar.

A masked burglar, armed with an open knife, was shot and instantly killed in Chicago Tuesday by Dr. Adolph Gehrmann, 3816 Ellis avenue. The physician fired three times. Each bullet took effect. No marks which would identify the man were found by the police.

News from the Fleet.

Gov. Gen. Smith received a telegram Monday from Zumbango saying that the Atlantic fleet was expected to pass through the Basilan channel Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning. The repair ship Panther passed through the Russian channel en route to Manila.

Haskell to Sue Hearst.

Gov. Haskell announced on his arrival at Guthrie, Okla., Monday from Chicago that he would bring suit against William Randolph Hearst Wednesday "to make him prove that what he said was not true."

Bible in Every Room.

An organized movement to place the bible in the rooms of every hotel in the United States was formulated at a meeting of "Gideons," at Kansas City, an organization of Christian traveling men.

Russian Train Held Up.

A St. Petersburg special says: A successful train robbery has been executed by a band of thirty men near Vilna. No definite statement of the exact amount of the booty has yet been made, but it is estimated to vary between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

Cars Collide in Brooklyn.

Twenty persons were injured, two fatally, in a collision between trolley cars in Brooklyn Monday.

COURT HOLDS DAVIS.

Young Banker Must Answer for Murder of Rustin.

Following a five days' legal battle before Police Judge Crawford at Omaha, Charles Edward Davis was bound over to the district court to answer the charge of murder in the first degree for the killing of Dr. Frederick Rustin on the morning of Sept. 2. Bail was fixed at \$10,000, which was promptly furnished by two brothers of the defendant, and the accused man was permitted to go, although he will remain in charge of a guard, who has been retained by the Davis family.

Mrs. Abbie Rice, who has been detained in the matron's department of the police station since the shooting, it is stated, will be released on nominal bonds for her appearance in the district court as a witness. It is stated also that her father will take her back to Des Moines, where she will remain until the trial is over.

Dr. J. P. Lord and Mrs. Rice were both called in rebuttal. Their testimony was brief, being for the purpose of refuting statements by the police that Lord had not told the officers of meeting a man answering Davis' description the night of the shooting and explanatory of why Mrs. Rice did not ride in the same seat on a street car with Rustin.

COST OF WHITE PLAGUE.

Five Million Face Death from Consumption.

That 5,000,000 people now living in the United States are doomed to fill consumptive graves unless something is done to prevent it, was the startling declaration of Prof. Irving Fish, of Yale university, in an address on "The Cost of Tuberculosis" before the international congress on tuberculosis at Washington, D. C.

Fisher's address, which was the feature of the day created a sensation among the hundreds who listened to his statements.

Fisher further declared that 135,000 persons who die of consumption annually in this country do so, in hard cash, over \$1,000,000,000 a year.

HUNDREDS NEAR DEATH.

Two Steamers Collide on the Coast of England.

The tourists steam yacht Argonaut, which left London Monday bound for Lisbon with 250 persons, went down in collision with the steamer Kingswell in a fog. All on board the Argonaut came ashore safely.

The Argonaut sank so quickly that those on board barely had time to save themselves. Fortunately the sea was smooth and the transfer of the passengers and crew to small boats was made speedily. There was no panic.

The people on board the Argonaut lost everything they possessed.

KILLED IN BATTLE WITH DEER

Man Found with Arms Clashed Around Dead Animal.

With his arms tightly clasped about the neck of a large buck deer which had died of a bullet wound, the body of George Buxton, of Brockway, in the southern part of Oregon, was found in Ollalla canyon by a searching party Buxton had evidently wounded the animal and was preparing to cut it up when he was attacked. The ground showed evidence of a terrible struggle and the man's body was cut and crushed by horns and hoofs.

Confessed Ballot Frauds.

Two more men have confessed to violations of the election laws of Missouri during the August primaries. They were sentenced to two years each in the penitentiary. Both defendants Benjamin Tenting and Robert Williams, are negroes. Thus far some 91 indictments have been returned by the grand jury.

California Bank Fails.

The Valley Savings bank, of Fresno, Cal., incorporated last January with an authorized capital of \$200,000, has been closed by order of the state bank commission. Its affairs have been placed in the custody of an accountant representing the commission.

To Withdraw Troops from China.

It is believed that Japan will withdraw a large portion of the Japanese troops now stationed in North China, leaving only a small number at Peking and Tientsin.

Steamer Goes on Rocks.

The steamer Humboldt went hard and fast on the rocks of Active Pass, near Victoria, B. C., early Tuesday. The passengers were taken off by a fishing steamer and went on to Seattle.

Bally Will Not Retire.

Senator Bally, of Texas, emphatically denied he intended to resign from the senate or ending his career there.

Fatal Wreck in Kansas City.

One person, Pearl Guinard, was killed and several others injured at Kansas City, Mo., when a motor car carrying a number of passengers, collided with and demolished a light road wagon.

Rob Wisconsin Bank.

Robbers blew the safe of a state bank at Ladysmith, Wis., taking about \$3,000. The cracksmen shot a night policeman in the arm.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

ATTACKED BY HOGS.

Child Near Nebraska City Has Narrow Escape. A young son of Mrs. Graham of Cherokee, Wyo., who was visiting with relatives at Union, had a most exciting experience. He got out in a hog lot and was attacked by the hogs, being thrown down and his clothing torn from his body.

Traced to the place by the screams of the child and found that the hogs were eating the child alive, and she had a terrible fight to chafe them away from their victims. When the child was rescued it was found that he had large pieces of flesh bitten from his arms, legs and body and on top of his head was a large scarp wound made by the hogs' teeth. The child is still in a serious condition and it will be some time before his wounds heal, if no other complications set in. Had the mother been five minutes later the child would have been killed and devoured by the hogs.

BROKEN BOW STORE IS ROBBED.

Thousand Dollars in Cash and Jewelry Taken from Safe. Some time during Tuesday night burglars entered the jewelry and shoe store belonging to Fred W. Hayes of Broken Bow, taking nearly \$1,000 in cash and valuables from the safe. The thieves gained entrance through a back window, and from the foot of their having little difficulty, apparently, in opening the big safe, must have been old hands at the game. Suspicion is directed toward the carpenter and strangers who came in from the west late Saturday night and claimed to be from Billings. The jewelry taken consists of watches and a number of pearl and diamond rings. Sheriff Kennedy is working the wires in all directions. Another theory is that the job was done by local crooks.

TRAINS COLLIDE AT KEARNEY.

Five People Injured, One of Them Seriously. A special freight train struck accommodation train No. 62 at Kearney Tuesday afternoon and several were injured. The local train was pulling a load of sidewalk onto the eastbound main line and the through freight had a clear board. The engine struck the rear coach slantingly and it turned over. There were four passengers in the coach and all were slightly hurt. Mrs. Rommie St. John, of Gibbon, was injured the most, but not seriously. The injured: Mrs. E. Bowker, Kearney, Neb., bruised and cut; Mrs. Hazel Hillon, Amherst, Neb., spine injured; Raymond Fern, brakeman, collar bone broken.

YOUNG MAN ACCIDENTALLY SHOT

Gun is Discharged While a Friend is Examining It. Elnet Fritz, a young barber of Hooper, was accidentally killed by a gunshot wound Tuesday morning. He and Boyd Sanders were in the grocery store of Fred Anderson and were examining a shotgun, when in some manner the shell was exploded and the charge entered the neck of Fritz, killing him instantly. Mr. Fritz was about 28 years of age and has lived there about ten years. He leaves a young widow.

Child Wanders from Home.

The ten-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Engler, living eight miles northwest of Beatrice, wandered away from home Sunday evening and was not found until the next day. When the searching party found her she was in a pasture about a mile from her home with her pet dog. She had suffered considerably during the night from exposure, but otherwise was all right when found.

Farmers Lose Hogs.

What seems to be a kidney disease has broken out among the hogs in the country near Stanton. A number of farmers have lost their herds. The hog gets sick very suddenly and dies soon afterwards. On opening it up they find the spleen about three times its normal size and very brittle, as if rotten, the large intestines being full of minute worms scarcely visible to the naked eye.

Sent to Penitentiary.

Charles Ellinger, a West Point young man, who was found guilty of an assault with intent to inflict great bodily injury upon John Buse, a liverman, was sentenced by Judge Graves to two years imprisonment in the penitentiary.

Humbolt Hotel Changes.

The Central hotel, Humbolt's second hostelry, has passed under the control of Mrs. Eva J. Davison, who came from Falls City. Both the Central and the Park are owned by Dr. J. L. Gandy, who is doing every effort to keep both running in good shape.

Omaha Man Robbed on Train.

R. M. Beck, of Omaha, while returning home from a summer's work in Minnesota, was robbed of \$110 on a Northwestern train. The theft is supposed to have been committed while Beck was sleeping in his seat.

Severe Storm at Atsworth.

Friday afternoon the hardest storm of the season visited Atsworth. There was thunder and lightning and rain and hail fell to the depth of three inches. The thermometer went down over thirty degrees.

Carload Not Guilty.

A most unusual and dramatic scene took place in district court at Broken Bow when the jury in the case of James Carland, charged with the murder of John Sanderson March 28, brought in a verdict of acquittal after being out thirty-six hours.

New Church.

The Christian Scientists are laying the foundation for their new church in Nebraska City. It will be one of the finest church edifices in the city when completed.

Telephone Displaces Telegraph.

The Burlington railroad has inaugurated the use of the telephone instead of telegraph in dispatching trains on its Lincoln division, from Lincoln to Pacific Junction, Ia.

FATALLY BURNED BY GASOLINE.

Stepping on Match in Closed Room Causes Explosion.

By a gasoline explosion at Nebraska City Saturday, George Trullinger and his foreman, Grover Lane, were fatally burned. Trullinger conducts a cleaning establishment, using gasoline and has a plant near his home in the northern part of the city. While working there Lane invited him to go into the drying room to inspect it, and when they stepped into the room and closed the door one of them stepped upon a match and instantly an explosion followed and both men were enveloped in flames. The door had been kept behind them and they fought to make their escape, but before getting the door open they were almost roasted to death.

Trullinger is so badly burned that his finger nails have dropped off and his whole body is burned over and no hope is entertained of his recovery. Lane escaped with serious burns on his face and arms. The clothing of both men was nearly burned from their bodies before they got out and received assistance. Trullinger has been unfortunate; he first wife and child were burned to death in a gasoline explosion at his home and afterwards his place of business in the Grand hotel block was destroyed by a similar explosion. He is a young man and quite popular.

FARMERS FORM ORGANIZATION.

Combine to Fight the Claims of the Union Pacific. At a meeting of right of way farmers near Duncan a permanent organization was effected under the name of "The Platte Valley Farmers' Protective association" and a constitution adopted. Officers were elected as follows: Charles Wooster, president, and Frank O. Holden, secretary, both of Silver Creek; John Engel of Duncan, treasurer, and J. O. Blodgett of Columbus, Amos Wichey and Martin Kroy, Jr., of Broken Bow, and Robert Murray of Silver Creek, members of the executive committee, of which the president of the association is ex-officio chairman.

One of the declared purposes of the farmers is to "protect themselves from the encroachments of the Union Pacific Railroad company" in the matter of claims for 400 feet of right of way. Farmers and land owners along the Union Pacific railroad from Omaha to Ogden, Neb., are made eligible to membership. Silver Creek is made the headquarters of the association.

Accident's Victim.

What might have been a very serious accident happened when Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Holmes, of Red Cloud, were on their way to Bladen. They were driving their automobile down a hill when the front wheel struck a rock and turned over backwards with the occupants underneath. Mrs. Holmes escaped badly bruised, while Mr. Holmes was not injured at all.

Denists Meet.

The Northwest Nebraska Dental society met in annual session at McCook with a representative attendance of over fifty dentists from all over that part of Nebraska. The next session of the society will be held in Superior next fall. The officers elected were: President, J. M. Prime, of Oxford; secretary, W. A. McHenry, of Nelson; treasurer, J. A. Gainsforth, of Holdrege.

Over a Million in Taxes.

Taxes amounting to \$1,140,000, in round numbers, have been paid by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway company on its holdings west of the Missouri river during the past year, according to R. D. Pollard, the road's tax commissioner. Of this sum over \$500,000 has been paid in the state of Nebraska.

Small Farms for Adventists.

The Seventh Day Adventists, who have their state conference headquarters at Hastings, have purchased forty acres of fine farming land just outside the city limits, but near their tract in College addition, and will cut it into small tracts for sale to members of the denomination.

Sties for \$1,700.

Mrs. Eva Bivens, of Beatrice, filed suit in the district court against Guy Ellis, of Omaha, Joseph Ellis, and others to recover the sum of \$1,700. The plaintiff alleges this amount is due her for money loans made to John Ellis, now deceased, father of the two boys named as defendants.

Explosion Wrecks Room.

An explosion of an oil stove caused considerable damage at the home of Henry Bean of Falls City. Mrs. Bean, who is an invalid, was sitting in an invalid's chair near the stove at the time of the explosion and was severely burned, especially about the face. Mr. Bean was badly burned in carrying her to a place of safety.

Delegates to the Waterways.

Governor Sheldon has appointed the following delegates to the lakes to the Gulf deep waterway convention to be held in Chicago, October 7 to 9: William Howard, Nebraska City; Charles Sloan, Genoa; Eugene Brady, Nebraska City; H. T. Clarke, Omaha; James North, Columbus; E. P. Meyer, Alliance.

Horse and Boy Stolen.

A horse and boy, belonging to D. S. Faulder, living in the northern part of Beatrice, was stolen. There is no clue to the thieves. The officers believe the theft was committed by a gang operating in that section of the state and Kansas.

Grape Growers Organize.

A grape growers' association is being organized by prominent grape growers of Peru. The object is to promote the growing and shipping of grapes. Experts say that the hillside of this region are admirably adapted to the growing of the vine.



LORD TWEEDMOUTH, first lord of the British admiralty, is "in a beastly fix."

The Kaiser wrote him a letter and criticized the British naval program. It was only a personal letter and Lord Tweedmouth replied. To his horror, the next thing was the publication in the Times, England's greatest newspaper, of a sensational article and a bitter editorial demanding that he make the Kaiser's letter public. The other English newspapers followed suit, and everybody began to want to know what business it was of the Kaiser's what England did about her navy, and why he dared to write Lord Tweedmouth about it, and how it could have happened that Lord Tweedmouth forgot himself so far as to reply to such a letter, and why Lord Tweedmouth couldn't let everybody know what was in the letter.

One of the cleverest cracksmen that ever operated in London has been arrested in the person of John Frederick Spencer, well-known citizen and Sunday school teacher. Only recently he was given prize of \$500 as "most respected citizen." Had not Spencer been arrested while in the act of burglarizing few would have believed the charges against him. He has made a complete confession. "I JOHN F. SPENCER, was caught red-handed," he said, "so there is no use denying anything. I am the so-called 'Mr. Raffles,' to capture whom the municipality employed an extra force of detectives at a cost of \$4,000."



VICTOR ROSEWATER, editor of the Omaha Bee and member of the executive committee of the Republican national committee, is native of Omaha, where he was born in 1871, the year the Bee was established by his father, the late Edward Rosewater. Mr. Rosewater was educated at the public schools in Omaha, Johns Hopkins university, at Baltimore, and Columbia university, New York, taking the degree of doctor of philosophy at Columbia. Since 1895 he has been active in newspaper work, being the managing editor of the Bee from that year until the death of his father in August, 1906, when he succeeded to editorship of the paper.

Bert M. Fernald, who has been elected Governor of Maine, is a wealthy farmer and proprietor of a large concern. He has a farm of 800 acres at South Poland that is one of the finest in the East, and lives on it because he prefers it to a city home. Born on a farm, he has lived on one all his life. Mr. Fernald is 50 years old. He has served in the Legislature and two years ago sought the Republican nomination for Governor, but was defeated.

Lady Dorothy Howard, to whom Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, the young English statesman, is said to be engaged, is the fifth daughter of the Earl of Carlisle and 26 years old. She is said to be the keenest politician in a large family that is enthusiastically devoted to politics and has made speeches at street corner meetings in favor of the liberal licensing bill. Her father, the earl, is a unionist and the oldest of the title, which is one of the oldest in Great Britain.

Henry M. Nevius, who has been made commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., is a native of New Jersey. He was a law student with the late R. A. Alger, when the civil war broke out. He enlisted from his state, was promoted to a commission with the Seventh Michigan cavalry. He lost an arm in front of Fort Stevens. He has been department commander for New Jersey twice. He has also been a judge and president of the state senate.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Some irregularity is seen in the course of events, but the general trend of business is encouraging. Temporary setbacks are caused by forest fires, delayed plowing and postponed demand in leading retail lines, all due to the abnormal drought.

The volume of payments through the banks furnishes the best record in twelve weeks, and is considerably above that of the corresponding week of 1906, when trade was remarkably active, while the comparison with a year ago shows only a small loss.

A healthy indication is the firmer tone in money, which has caused an advance in the discount rate. Despite increasing shipments of currency to move the crops and reserving of funds in most heavy October shipments, bank deposits remain in the best average of the season and resources are ample for anticipated borrowing needs.

Investment has widened in choice bonds, although the new issues are restricted, and sales of local securities almost equal those at this time last year. There is also considerable money going into real estate, mostly bought for improvement purposes, and into new building work and heavy construction, compares favorably with this time last year, and labor finds more employment at good wages.

Absorption of building materials steadily expands, and this strengthens the conditions in lumber, structural steel, wood work and quarrying, shipments having increased and prices being fairly up-held.

Manufacturing discloses no significant change in production. More machinery and hands, however, are active and new orders come forward as well as expected in iron, brass and electric lines.

Bank clearings, \$237,615,073, are 3.7 per cent under those of the corresponding week in 1907. Failures reported in the Chicago district number 28, against 34 last week and 16 a year ago. Those with liabilities over \$5,000 number 7, against 9 last week and 3 in 1907.—Dun's Review of Trade.

NEW YORK.

While events generally tend toward steady if slow improvement, conservatism still rules purchasing in wholesale and jobbing lines, and at several large centers fall trade, notably in dry goods, has reached and passed its maximum. Taken as a whole, trade, though in a few instances equal to a year ago at this date, is still generally below the normal, and the approach of the election has a tendency to discourage all but absolutely necessary purchases.

Western trade advices are good as a whole, though heavy trade is on the wane and traveling salesmen are relied upon to take care of pending business. There is very general agreement that stocks are small in retailers' hands, and color to this is given by the many orders given for immediate shipment, which throws unusual burdens in turn upon jobbers, wholesalers and manufacturers.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending Sept. 24 number 297, against 290 last week, 109 in the like week of 1907, 105 in 1906, 185 in 1905 and 17